

A few of those 25,000-vote special coupons will come in mighty handy toward the end of the Herald contest.

ITALY will be shoved into the vortex if the allies have the strength to push.

# The Evening Herald

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## RECEIVERS NAMED FOR OPERATING COMPANY OF C. R. I. & P.

Federal District Court, After Admission of General Counsel That Concern Is Insolvent, Takes Charge of It.

### EX-SECRETARY OF WAR ONE OF MEN SELECTED

Application of American Steel Foundries Company, Based on Claim of \$17,000, Basis for Action.

Chicago, April 20.—The Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway company was placed in the hands of receivers in Judge Carpenter's court here today. The stock dropped ten points on the New York stock exchange.

The company admitted its inability to meet more than \$5,000,000 in short term notes and other obligations due between now and May first and the court appointed H. U. Mudge, president of the company and Jacob M. Dickinson, former secretary of war, receivers.

Application for the receivership was made by the American Steel Foundries company, which has a claim of \$17,000 against the defendant. A. C. Hildaway, vice president of the railway company, and W. F. Dickinson, its general attorney, appeared in court. Answering the petition, Hildaway stated that a receivership was the best means of protecting creditors, bond and stockholders and collateral interests.

The railway company was the basic property in the formation of the Rock Island company which is said practically to have disappeared. Its only asset was the railroad company, the stock of which dropped to a dollar or so, and its fate can be imagined with such assets.

The bill filed by the minority stockholders seeking an injunction against the railway's debt aggregated \$28,000,000. It was stated further that the stock of the company, which sold in 1902 at \$50, has sold as low as 19 a share. It was stated that the field Moore interests were still in control.

Stockholders of the railway company held their annual meeting here April 12 last after a federal court had declined to enjoin the meeting on petition of counsel for minority stockholders. Rumors of apparently authentic origin at the time were current that the company was insolvent.

With reference to the financial management of the property, considerable testimony was introduced two months ago in the course of the arbitration of the wage demands of the firemen and engineers of western railroads. W. J. Lauch, a statistician employed by the men, in an exhibit said:

"The road came under control of the Moore Brothers and Daniel G. Reid in 1901. At that time began the dissipation of the great resources of the company as well as the manipulation of its securities by which the Rock Island and the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad company were launched. The total amount of the fictitious capitalization with which the railway company is now burdened is enormous."

Petition for a receiver for the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway company was filed in the United States district court here today by the American Steel Foundries company.

The defendant company is the operating corporation which, according to information gained at the general offices, has never before been named in such a suit.

Ralph M. Shaw, of counsel for the American Steel Foundries company, stated to Judge Carpenter that the Rock Island had admitted its inability to meet obligations and that for the benefit of stockholders, bondholders and other creditors his client was moved to ask for a receiver.

Judge Carpenter asked why the bondholders had not made the application instead of the foundries company, and the lawyer explained that thus far the company has not defaulted on its interest on bonds.

An exhibit presented at the wage arbitration proceedings of western railroads here gave the ownership of the property involved in the suit as follows:

The Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad is controlled by the Rock Island company through ownership of the entire capital stock. The Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railway is

## America Has Noble Mission of Service to Fulfill to Warring Nations of Europe When Conflict Ends Is Belief of Wilson

### Persistent Rumors Afloat In Rome Foretell Early Peace

Rome, April 20.—Within the last 24 hours there have arisen in Rome persistent reports that the grave international questions confronting Italy may be solved in the near future by what at first sight seems almost incredible, the conclusion of a general peace in Europe at no distant date.

While these reports are innumerable and cannot at present be ascribed to a definite source, they nevertheless are reflected in high quarters and they are given heed by careful observers of international politics.

Suffice it to say that with much interest, efforts are being made by representatives of the belligerents to

induce King Ferdinand to announce his decision. The importance of the attitude of Bulgaria is recognized fully in Rome. Should she side with the Teutonic allies it would be difficult for Rumania to make war upon Austria-Hungary, for she would then be subjected to attack by Bulgaria as well as by Turkish troops coming through Bulgarian territory.

In this connection a prominent diplomat said today:

"Once more is the fate of the Balkans in the hands of Bulgaria. Indeed, this time her decision may have great weight on the general development of the war."

### BATTLE FOR HILL NO. 60 OF MUCH IMPORTANCE

Claims of Teutons and Allies Fail to Agree, But That Conflict is Decisive One is Evidenced Widely.

London, April 20 (1:32 p. m.)—Although the German claims on the one hand and the British and French on the other are diametrically opposed in the matter of the outcome of the battle for Hill No. 60, southeast of Ypres, and near the northern extremity of the British lines, the facts at hand indicate that this engagement was the most important along the British front since the battle of Neuve Chapelle, and that it perhaps presages the expected general British activity in Flanders.

The British, whether or not they hold all the ground gained, undoubtedly still dominate a part of Zandvoorde, a line of hills running southeast of Ypres and commanding the road from Ypres to Menin. The losses in this fighting have not been announced. Judging from dispatches reaching London they have been considerable on both sides.

The Russians continued to hold their firm grip on the main chain of the Carpathians, but news of any decisive action from this arena of the fighting is lacking.

### PRISON OFFICIALS PLAN WORK FOR ROBERTS ET ALS

Leavenworth, Kan., April 20.—Officials at the United States penitentiary were busy today planning the assignments to work in the prison of the twenty-one men who arrived yesterday to serve terms in connection with the Terre Haute election conspiracy case.

Deputy Warden Henne said he expected to send Donn M. Roberts, the mayor, to the office of the superintendent of construction to become an assistant. Dennis Shea, the sheriff, will enter the prison blacksmith shop, while Judge Eli Rodman, because of his knowledge of the law, will be assigned to the office of the record clerk.

Controlled by the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad through ownership of 55.28 per cent of the capital stock, the railway company filed an answer contesting to the action requested by the foundries company and Judge Carpenter announced that he would hold the matter under advisement until this afternoon.

H. U. Mudge, president of the railway company, and J. M. Dickinson, former secretary of war, were appointed receivers.

A. C. Hildaway, vice president of the railway company, and W. F. Dickinson, its general attorney, were in court. Both admitted that the company is insolvent. Short term notes aggregating \$5,000,000 are due May first, and it is said that there are other obligations including a claim of \$17,000, made by the foundries company.

The Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad company, owner of nearly all of the stock of the railway company, has been in the hands of a receiver appointed in New York for some time. That the railway company also faced a receivership was strongly intimated at the meeting of stockholders held here April 12, last.

### RAILROADS OFFER NO OBJECTIONS TO EQUITABLE TAX RAISE

Judge Bledsoe, Counsel for Santa Fe, Says Companies Want Only Proportionate Addition All Along Line.

### WILKERSON URGES THAT LOCAL INCREASE BE KEPT

Attorney for County and City Asks Tax Board to Retain \$600,000 Addition to A. T. & S. F. Assessment.

(Special Dispatch to Evening Herald.)

Santa Fe, N. M., April 20.—The state tax commission met this morning in its second session for the purpose of hearing the railroads and other corporations on whose property tentative increases have been made in actual value for the purposes of the assessment for the fourth fiscal year. The morning session was devoted entirely to informal statements by representatives of the various railroads, the principal statement being by Judge Ed E. Bledsoe, general attorney of the Santa Fe, who expressed what seemed to be the general sentiment of the railroad representatives that the roads will make no objections to any reasonable increase in valuation provided proportionate increases are made in all classes of property. Mr. Bledsoe offered to place at the disposal of the commission the entire investigation facilities of the Santa Fe's tax department and expressed regret that the large appropriation of money had not been made by the state legislature in order to give the commission facilities for its work.

Thomas J. Newkirk, representing the Rock Island railroad, stated that his road, in 1914, paid \$41,000 taxes on 111 miles of road in this state while the net earnings of that mileage for the year were \$31,000.

H. B. Harding, representing the El Paso and Southwestern railroad, stated that his road would make no protest if raises in valuations were made on all classes of property alike. He said, however, that the road was now paying a large part of the taxes in the counties through which it operates along its right of way and that since the passage of the county unit school tax bill, it will be required to pay taxes in districts in which it did not operate.

E. W. Tolson, of Albuquerque, appeared this morning for the American Lumber company, making a general protest against the assessment of the railroad owned by the company in its timber lands upon the same basis as other railroads are assessed.

This afternoon T. N. Wilkerson, city attorney of Albuquerque, appeared before the commission stating that he represented the Bernalillo county commissioners and the city of Albuquerque and presenting arguments to sustain the raise of \$600,000 which the commission has made on the Albuquerque terminals of the Santa Fe.

Mr. Wilkerson estimated the ground owned by the Santa Fe, between Central and Gold avenue, to be worth \$400,000 without any buildings thereon; he said the Y. M. C. A. site was valued at \$75,000; that the railroad owned the land on which the Charles H. Hild company, L. B. Putney and Gross-Kelly & Co. had their establishments. He estimated the property in the store house alone to be worth half a million dollars. At the conclusion of his statement the commission passed a resolution to give each interest represented a private hearing. It probably will require several days to hear the corporations' case.

## WILSON SAYS NEUTRALITY WILL GIVE HONORS

Distraction Coming to United States Because of Self-Control During Hostilities in Europe, is His Prediction to Newspapers in Definition of Country's Status.

### POSITION OF AMERICA NOT MERE PETTY WISH TO KEEP OUT OF FIGHT

Mastery of Self Far Greater Achievement, Asserts Nation Executive, Than Successfully Evading Involvement in Difficulties of Other Great Powers.

New York, April 20.—President Wilson in an address at the annual luncheon of the Associated Press here this afternoon, gave a definite statement of his idea of true neutrality and of the duties that devolve upon America's connection with the European war. The president declared that the neutrality of the United States was not a petty desire to keep out of trouble, because there was something so much greater to do than to fight. A great distinction, he said, was coming to the United States—the distinction of a nation of self-control and self-mastery. He said such a nation was bound to play an important part in adjusting the affairs of the world once the fighting is ended.

"We have no hampering ambitions," he declared; "we do not want a foot of anybody's territory. Isn't such a nation bound to be free to serve the other nations?"

The president was introduced by President Frank B. Knox of the Associated Press and was greeted with cheers.

"I am deeply gratified by the generous reception you have accorded me," he said. "It makes me look back with a touch of regret to former occasions when I have stood in this place and enjoyed a greater liberty than is granted today. There have been times when I stood in this spot and said what I really thought and I pray God those days of indulgence may be accorded me again. But I have come here today, of course, somewhat restrained by a sense of responsibility that I cannot escape. For I take the Associated Press very seriously. I know the enormous part that you play in the affairs of this country but of the world. You deal in the raw materials of opinion and, if my convictions have any validity, opinion ultimately governs the world."

"It is therefore of very serious things that I think as I face this body of men. I do not think of you, however, as members of the Associated Press. I do not think of you as men of different parties or of different religious denominations, or of different religious denominations. I want to talk to you as to my fellow citizens of the United States. For there are serious things which, as fellow citizens, we ought to consider. The times behind us, gentlemen, have been difficult enough; the times before us are likely to be more difficult, because whatever may be said about the present condition of the world, it is clear that they are drawing rapidly to a climax and at the climax the test will come, not only of the nations engaged in the present colossal struggle—it will come for them, of course, but the test will come to us particularly."

Do you realize that, roughly speaking, we are the only great nation at present disengaged? I am not speaking, of course, with disparagement of those great nations in Europe which are not parties to the present war, but I am thinking of their close neighborhood to it.

"I am thinking, however, their lives much more than ours; their very heart and soul of the business; whereas we have rolling between us three thousand miles of cool and silent ocean. Our atmosphere is not yet charged with those disturbing elements which must be felt and must

### British Destroy Submarine to Prevent Capture By Turks

London, April 20 (2:22 p. m.)—The British admiralty announced officially today that the British submarine E-15 was destroyed in the Dardanelles by British picket boats.

The admiralty note says: "The submarine E-15 was grounded on Kephess point last Saturday, and appears to have been in danger of falling into the enemy's hands in a serviceable condition. Great efforts were made by the Turks to secure her. Attempts to destroy her by long range fire of battleships failed."

"During the night of the 18th two picket boats—that of the Triumph, under Lieutenant Commander Eric Robinson, who commanded the expedition, assisted by Lieutenant Arthur Brooke Webb, R. N. R., and Midshipman John Woolley, and that of the Majestic, under Lieutenant

Claude Godwin, both manned by volunteer crews—attacked the submarine. The boats were subjected to a heavy fire, estimated at over 200 rounds, from Port No. 3, which was only a few hundred yards distant, and a number of small guns at short range. Notwithstanding this the submarine was torpedoed and rendered useless. The Majestic's picket boat was holed and sunk, but the crew was saved by the other boat, and the only casualty was one man who died of wounds."

A dispatch from Constantinople by way of Berlin, received Sunday, said that the British submarine E-15 had been holed in the Dardanelles while reconnoitering. She was shelled by a Turkish battery, some of her crew killed or wounded and other taken prisoner by the Turks.

## ONE FARMER OUT OF VILLA FORTIFYING THREE PAYS FOR PRIVILEGE OF LABORING

Western Freight Rate Hearing Takes New Angle When Question of Agricultural Earnings is Introduced.

### STARTLING STATEMENTS MADE BY U. S. EXPERT

E. J. Thompson, in Charge of Division of Farm Economics Tells Commerce Commission Surprising Things.

Chicago, April 20.—Discussion of farm earnings was anew angle which entered the western freight rate hearing today with the testimony of E. J. Thompson, of the United States department of agriculture. Thompson, who is in charge of the section of farm economics, told of data gathered by federal officials in Indiana, Illinois and Iowa. He testified that in that district one farmer out of 21 made over \$2,000 a year after deducting all expenses and five per cent on the actual investment.

"One farmer out of every three on 273 farms considered in the three states," said Thompson, "paid for the privilege of working his farm."

His statistics on rental farms gave the average yearly earnings of a tenant farmer as \$179 a year. The taxes applied to 247 tenant farms, and he testified that the owners of the 247 farms received an average net return of 3.5 per cent on the property investment after allowing for taxes and insurance.

The cost of growing an acre of corn was placed by the witness at \$29.30 for an average yield of 45 bushels to the acre.

Based on the actual selling price offered to the farmer after harvest," said Thompson, "the farmer received only two mills profit on a bushel of corn. The cost of raising a bushel of oats, figured on actual data from 577 acres, was \$9.9 cents and the average price received for oats was 33c a bushel, a loss of 11.5 cents a bushel."

"There is no profit in raising oats," said the witness. "That crop has to be grown by the farmer to preserve the rotation of crops."

Counsel for the railroads objected to the introduction of the testimony on the ground that it was irrelevant to the question of the proposed advance in freight rates.

Arguing for the submission of the farm earnings testimony, Clifford Thorne, counsel for the western state commissions, urged that as the railroads had repeatedly brought in the question of "What the traffic would bear," in their position of the case, the evidence on the farm earnings was material.

"We contend," he said, "that if the business of farming is unprofitable and yields a lower return than other industries, it has a bearing here."

Commissioner Daniels ruled that the testimony would be received.

Spirited Artillery Duel Reported.

Paris, April 20 (via London, 2 p. m.)—The French war office this afternoon gave out a report on the progress of hostilities which reads: "There have been particularly spirited artillery changes in the region of Soissons and in the sectors of Rheims and the Argonne; otherwise there is no news to give out."

## ROOSEVELT TELLS STORY OF LIFE ON STAND IN BARNES CASE

Ex-President Sketches Early History, Political Career, Military Achievements and Executive Actions.

### BARNES' COUNSEL CALL BUT SINGLE WITNESS

Former Rough Rider Admits He is Man Who Said What Plaintiff Charges Is Libelous to Extent of \$50,000.

Syracuse, N. Y., April 20.—Theodore Roosevelt today went upon the witness stand to defend himself in the suit for alleged libel brought against him by William Barnes.

When the colonel's name was called he rose from his seat at the table occupied by his counsel and manfully walked around to the witness chair.

In reply to a question he said he was the man who made the statement complained of.

He added:

"I am 55 years old and have a wife and six children."

In reply to questions by John D. Bowers, his chief counsel, he told in a firm clear voice the story of his early life. Then he sketched his political career. He told of his appointment to the civil service commission, to the office of police commissioner of New York, and assistant secretary of the navy. He then told of organizing with General Wood the Rough Rider regiment to participate in the war with Spain.

Barnes changed his suit so he could watch his opponent while he was telling of the work of the Rough Riders in Cuba.

Irina, Barnes' attorney, objected to this line of testimony, and Bowers said he was trying to show just who the witness was.

The witness then described his first engagement with the Spanish and Irina again objected. The court did not let him and Colonel Roosevelt continued.

"When we moved toward Santiago—"

"I object to that," said Irina.

"What difference does it make where he moved? I want to shorten this trial as much as possible."

Justice Andrews said the witness had better confine himself to the issue.

Bowers, however, continued to question the colonel about Spanish war matters. Later the colonel said: "I was elected governor of New York in 1898. Then I became vice president. I became president when President McKinley died from a gunshot wound. At the time President McKinley was shot I was in Vermont. I went to Buffalo and stayed there for some time. Later I left and was with my family when President McKinley died."

Coming down to the time when he left for Africa, Colonel Roosevelt sketched his movements for the best part of the year, since he retired, he said, he had been busy writing and that at times "I was busy with politics."

"I have been," he went on, "a citizen of New York all my life. I have always lived in New York City of Oyster Bay, where I first voted."

"I do not remember just where I first met Mr. Barnes, but I think it was during my campaign for governor, I was introduced to him by the chairman of some committee in New York. Later in Albany I saw him many times. In 1909 I had a number of conferences with him. I had more with him than with any other of the leaders except Mr. Platt and Mr. O'Dell."

"We had many political discussions. For the most part they were in regard to the relations between myself and the leaders of the Republican organization, particularly Senator Platt. There were certain issues between us. Platt was known as the boss of the organization which controlled the majority of the Republican members of the legislature, who sometimes cooperated with the Democrats. We were at odds principally over legislative matters."

The witness added that he also discussed executive action with Barnes. "Did you talk to Barnes about executive matters at any time?" Irina objected to the question on the ground that it was irrelevant and irrelevant. He was upheld.

"Did you discuss the proposed franchise tax?" asked Bowers.

Irina was on her feet in an instant with an objection. Justice Andrews said it appeared to him that the defense had a right to prove, if possible, that there existed between Barnes and Roosevelt a close friendship, or that there was one between Barnes and Murphy.

"If these things can be proved,"

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(Continued on Page Two.)